I am OPPOSED to Senate Bill 886

My name is Craig Sanford

I own E-Z Way Driver Training and Driver Education The E-Z Way driving schools and I employ over 45 instructors.

Driver Education is very important in Michigan to our Graduated Licensing System and the lives of our teenagers and their families. I believe our students deserve the best teachers that we can produce.

Senate Bill 886 provides for changes in our Driver Education Instructor Preparation law that would greatly degrade the quality of the new instructors completing the Driver Education Instructor Preparation Program. These new teachers need time to learn the curriculum and apply it in the classroom and in the behind-the-wheel lessons.

I believe is it best that the Instructors of this program have a Master's degree in education as they are educating a large number of non-teacher participants. The Instructors of the Instructor Preparation classes need many years of experience in both Driver Education classroom and behind-the-wheel instruction.

Driver Education programs need instructors that are well educated and ready to teach when hired. Providers do not have time or resources to conduct additional training. It would be best, from an education perspective, for these new teachers to go through each class, one at a time and spend more than one week in each class with their instructor.

I'm not in favor of an online format for a Driver Education course. The teachers need hands-on experiences just like the teenage students.

I encourage you to vote down Senate Bill 886

This industry needs only qualified people teaching our youth. I am not sure what is behind this proposal but I hope it is not a few fellow owners looking out for themselves and not the greater good of this valuable enterprise.

Thanks for your consideration, Craig Sanford